

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (amended): The method for preparing an antimicrobial complex useful as a mouthwash containing a biocidal composition comprising a chlorhexidine-thymol complex, dentifrice, coating for a dental floss, or a protective coating for teeth by a metathesis reaction between a cationic biocidal monomer or polymer with an anionic biocidal monomer or polymer.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The method for preparing an antimicrobial complex useful as a mouthwash, dentifrice, coating for a dental floss, or a protective coating for teeth by an acid-base reaction between a biocidal free base and a biocidal organic compound capable of donating a proton to the free base.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (withdrawn): A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the cationic polymeric biocide has a amidine, guanidine, biguanide, quaternary functionality in the backbone, or side chain, or contained in the dendrimers.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): A method as defined in claim 5 wherein the cationic polymeric biocide is Polyhexamethylene guanidine, Polyhexamethylene biguanide, or a quaternary dendrimer.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (withdrawn): A method as defined in claim 2 wherein the biocidal base is a tertiary amine such as sanguinarine, tetracycline, doxycycline, minocycline or delmopinol.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): A method as defined in claim 2 wherein the biocidal acid is undecylenic, stearic, mupirocin, or salicylic carboxylic acids.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): A method for the preparation of a mouthwash comprising:

- a.) from about 0.01 to about 1.5 wt. % of a biocidal complex as described in claim 2;
- b.) from about 0.25 to about 4.0 wt. % based on actives, and;
- c.) optionally containing up to 20 wt. % ethanol;
- d.) diluted to 100 wt. % with water.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (withdrawn): A method as defined in claim 9 wherein the surfactants are polyalkoxylated sorbital long chain hydrocarbon esters as the non-ionic surfactants long chain hydrocarbon amidopropyl-betaine as the amphoteric type surfactants, phospholipids as the cationic surfactants, or combinations thereof.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): A method as defined in claim 10 wherein the surfactants are polyalkoxylated sorbital long chain esters as the non-ionic surfactants, long chain hydrocarbon amidopropyl betaines as the amphoteric surfactants, phospholipids as the cationic surfactants or the combinations thereof.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): A method to prepare a dental floss wherein the anti-plaque complex as described in claim 1 is present in bulk or as a coating from about 0.10 to about 10.0 wt. %.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): A method to prepare a dental floss wherein the anti-plaque complex as described in claim 2 is present in bulk or as a coating from about 0.01 to about 10.0 wt. %.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): A method a preparing a dentifrice comprising a biocidal complex as described in claim 1 in amounts of about 0.01 to about 5.00 wt. %, a solubilizing solvent in amounts of about 5.0 to about 20 wt. %, a thickening polymer and a humectant in amounts of about 0.2 to about 10.0 wt. %, then adding a non-ionic, amphoteric, cationic or combinations thereof to form a

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A method of preparing a dentifrice comprising a biocidal complex as described in claim 2 in amounts of about 0.01 to about 5.00 wt. %, a solubilizing solvent in amounts of about 5.0 to about 20 wt. %, a thickening polymer and a humectant in amounts of about 0.2 to about 10.0 wt. %, then adding a non-ionic, amphoteric, cationic or combinations thereof to form a gel.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): Method of preparing a dental coating using the biocidal complexes of claim 1 useful to protect teeth against gingivitis, caries and the build up to plaque, used in concentrations of about 1.0 to about 15.0 wt %.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): Method of preparing a dental coating using the biocidal complexes of claim 2, useful to protect teeth against gingivitis, caries and the build up to plaque, used in concentrations of about 1.0 to about 15.0 wt %.

Claim 21 (new) The mouthwash of claim 1 further comprising a surfactant comprising Tego Betaine ZF.

Claim 22 (new) The mouthwash of claim 1 further comprising an excipient comprising ethanol.

Claim 23 (new) A mouthwash comprising:

- a) about 0.01 to about 1.5 wt %, based on the weight of the mouthwash, of a biocidal composition comprising a chlorhexidine-thymol complex;
- b) about 0.25 to about 4.0 wt %, based on the weight of the biocidal composition of a surfactant comprising Tego Betaine ZF ; and
- c) 0 to about 20 wt % ethanol, based on the weight of the mouthwash.

Claim 24 (new) The mouthwash of claim 23 further comprising water.